

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 11920 262133Z
ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EPA-01 VO-05 CA-01 /027 W
-----130208 270731Z /11

R 262129Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2291

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 11920

DEPT PASS EPA FOR SHOSTAL

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SENV, CVIS, TGEN, UR, US
SUBJECT: US-USSR ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT: MARINE
POLLUTION: DENIAL OF VISA TO US INTERPRETER (02.06-11)

REF: (A) STATE 133204, (B) STATE 131377, (C) STATE 41036
(AND PREVIOUS)

1. EMBOFF PASSED MESSAGE IN REFTEL TO HYDROMET ON MAY 26, WITH CORRECTION TO INDICATE THAT EMBOFF HAD ALSO CONTACTED HYDROMET ABOUT VISA AUTHORIZATION PROBLEM ON MAY 19.

2. WE WERE DISTURBED TO LEARN FROM REF A THAT IN ADDITION TO DELAY IN VISA ISSUANCE WHICH PREVENTED SUBJECT DELEGATION FROM COMING TO THE USSR AS PLANNED, THE DELEGATION'S INTERPRETER, DR. BELIAJEFF, WAS DENIED A VISA. WE HAVE REQUESTED AN EXPLANATION OF THIS DENIAL FROM HYDROMET AND URGED THAT BELIAJEFF BE ISSUED A VISA TO ALLOW HIM TO TRAVEL WITH THE DELEGATION IF IT COMES TO THE USSR IN JUNE (REF B).

3. COMMENT: DENIAL OF VISA TO BELIAJEFF MAY HAVE BEEN IN RETALIATION FOR US REFUSAL TO ISSUE VISA TO
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RAISA SMIRNOVA, TRAVELING AS "INTERPRETER" FOR SOVIET SCIENCE POLICY DELEGATION (REF C). DELAY IN ISSUANCE OF VISAS TO REMAINDER OF DEL MAY HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY SOVIET INTERNAL COORDINATION WITH RESPECT TO DR. BELIAJEFF VISA. ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT DR. BELIAJEFF HAS BEEN ASSOCIATED IN THE PROGRAM OF THE US DELEGATION, WE RECOMMEND THAT THE US DELEGATION REFUSE TO TRAVEL

UNLESS HE ALSO RECEIVES A VISA. COMPOSITION OF US
DELEGATIONS UNDER THE BILATERAL COOPERATIVE S&T
AGREEMENTS IS A MATTER FOR THE US ALONE TO DECIDE, AND
WE DO NOT WISH TO SET A DANGEROUS PRECEDENT BY ALLOWING
SOVIETS TO SINGLE OUT INDIVIDUAL MEMBER OF A DELEGATION
FOR VISA DENIAL. IF DEPT AND EPA AGREE TO THIS APPROACH
WE RECOMMEND THAT SOVIETS BE INFORMED OF US DECISION IN
A LETTER FROM US WORKING GROUP CHAIRMAN TO HIS SOVIET
COUNTERPART. MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

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